

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 23 with:

Each of the first and second coils 3, 4 may be a coil assembly formed of a set of multiple coils, or the first and second coils 3, 4 may be together formed by a set of multiple coils necessary for actuating the armature 2 that are arranged to produce desired control characteristics of the magnetic actuator 100. FIG. 20 shows such an arrangement in which the first coil 3 of FIG. 1 includes coils 3a and 3b and the second coil 4, of FIG. 1 includes coils 4a and 4b ~~of in FIG. 4 20~~. As an example, a third coil which performs the function of the first coil 3 may be provided at a location where the second coil 4 is provided.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 1 with:

Operation of the magnetic actuator 100 is now described with reference to FIGS. 14, 15 and 16A-16C. FIG. 15 shows a state corresponding to FIG. 16C in which contacts 210 of a circuit breaker 200 are in an open position. In this state, the armature 2 is held at a second position 9 adjacent to a lower yoke section 1b of the first yoke 1 by ~~fluxes flux~~ Φ_{PM1} generated by the permanent magnets 6c shown in FIG. 14. To switch the circuit breaker 200 from the open position of the contacts 210 to a closed contact position, the coil 3a is reversely excited so that magnetic fields oriented in directions opposite to arrows shown in FIG. 16B are created. Consequently, the sum of magnetic attractive forces exerted by ~~fluxes flux~~ $\Phi_{coil1-2}$ produced by the coil 3a and ~~fluxes flux~~ Φ_{PM1} produced by the permanent magnets 6c decreases and the armature 2 ~~is caused to move~~ moves from the second position 9 to the first position 8 over a specific stroke. When switching the circuit breaker 200 from the closed contact position shown in FIG. 16A to the open contact position shown in FIG. 16C by moving the armature 2 downward, the exciting coil 3a is excited to generate ~~fluxes flux~~ $\Phi_{coil1-1}$. The ~~fluxes flux~~ $\Phi_{coil1-1}$ should be just large enough to cancel ~~out~~ the attractive force exerted by the ~~fluxes flux~~ Φ_{PM1} produced by the permanent magnets 6c for holding the armature 2 at the first position 8 adjacent to the upper yoke section 1a. As the attractive force exerted by the ~~fluxes flux~~ Φ_{PM1} is canceled ~~out~~ in this fashion, the spring 12 provided between the upper yoke section 1a and the armature 2 causes the armature 2 to move downward toward the second position 9 adjacent to the lower yoke section 1b.